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mentaries, genealogical tables, and considerable extracts from the original Arabic texts. The value of this mass of documents, so elucidated, for the student of the history of North Africa, or of historical possibilities and methods generally, cannot easily be overestimated. One broad result is worth stating. The genealogies reckon about forty generations from the Muslim era to the present day. Of these the last five or six may be generally accepted as stated accurately—so far family tradition holds; the next eight or nine are less accurate; then come “seven or eight successive ancestors whose names rest more firmly on the accepted authority of contemporary ‘trees’ compiled during that Augustan age of the Sudan, the period of the early Fung Kingdom”; beyond these are some fourteen or fifteen weak links probably invented in part by genealogists of the Fung period; these join, and were meant to join, to the first thoroughly historical and accepted descents from the Companions of the Prophet. This is a very illuminative result and suggests caution in too wholesale rejection of long pedigrees.

The materials in these volumes for ethnology and folk-lore are at least equally important. On these subjects the author has already made his mark. The only possible criticism of the whole result of his labors is that it would have been well if he had collaborated in the final revision with a student of Islam and of the Arabic language and literature. This throws no discredit on his own knowledge of Sudanese Arabic, which is evidently far better for his purposes than any mere reader of literary Arabic could reach, but such collaboration would have secured due correlation between what Arabists already know and this new information. We are told here many things we know already and some things that are not so, and we are not told some things we want to know, like the persistent use of *walad* for *ibn* and of such forms as *Muhammadāb*. We should like to know also whether the frequent variation, especially in vowels, from the literary form of names is a reproduction of Sudanese pronunciation. The notes, too, often show more accurate knowledge in Arabic matters than the translations to which they are attached. Apparently there was some later revision and completion.

D. B. MACDONALD.

*India Old and New.* By Sir VALENTINE CHIROL. (London: Macmillan and Company. 1921. Pp. x, 319. 10s.)

It is doubtful whether any living person, possessed of equal literary ability, knows as much about India and its political history during the last generation as the author of this volume. He has at least interviewed, if he has not become the trusted friend of, nearly every actor in the great political drama which has been rapidly unfolding for the last twenty years in India. Those who took the initiative in the movement which led to the enactment of the Government of India Act of

1919 took counsel with him and were greatly influenced by his views. Gokale, the greatest statesman India has produced, was Sir Valentine's friend, while the agitators Tilak and Gandhi have discussed at length with him the burning questions of India's political life. All this and his mastery of the historical and political literature of India have made Sir Valentine Chirol the writer most worth reading on this subject. Radical Indians bitterly criticize his lack of sympathy with Indian aspirations, but the moderates recognize in him a true friend of India.

The rapidity with which Indian affairs are moving is amazingly proven by the fact that the leaves of the author's book on *Indian Unrest* were hardly dry from the press, when he realized the need for this new book, and, now that it is published, one familiar with recent developments realizes that still another volume is necessary to place one abreast of this swift-moving political evolution.

The historical background of the present political unrest is admirably sketched in the first five or six chapters. The clash of the two civilizations, the Indian and the European, is drawn with a fine feeling for the essentials. There follows a masterly chapter on the enduring power of Hinduism, which emphasizes the two salient features of Indian history up to the time of the Moslem invasion, the failure of the Aryan Hindus to achieve any permanent form of political unity, and their success, nevertheless, in building on rock foundations a complex but vital social system, Hinduism. When the Mahommedan flood in the eleventh century began to flow down into India and wave succeeded wave for three centuries, the plunder and carnage and cruelty and lust failed to destroy Hinduism, "because it consisted of such an infinity of water-tight compartments each vital and self-sufficing", and never breaking up, though almost submerged by the waves. The succeeding Mogul dynasty, from Timur to Akbar and Aurangzeb, again found that Hinduism would bend without breaking to the storm. With no political independence Hindu life and manners remained. Then came the British traders, and in time the traders became administrators and rulers, and once British power was fully established India enjoyed peace more universal and enduring than through all the ages of her troubled past. The author traces the growing British sense of responsibility toward the alien races which they ruled, and points out that as early as 1824 Sir Thomas Munro, governor of Madras, expressed the hope in a public document that "we shall in time so far improve the character of our Indian subjects as to enable them to govern and protect themselves". From that time on this spirit was never entirely absent, though often weak and too much subdued by Mammon. The chapter on the Mutiny and Fifty Years After makes clear the good and ill effect of that event on British administration, and "the first great wave of unrest" was in part at least the result. It is shown how British education bred radicals and discontented elements in Indian society,

which once created seized every opportunity that the government gave to raise opposition to it. The Morley-Minto reforms are ably analyzed and criticized, and their failure to satisfy Indian demands which grew apace with every concession to them. The last half of the book shows how the Great War led to the Indian Reforms Bill, and makes clear why these reforms were initiated under the most unfavorable circumstances. Perhaps no other person could have told with such sympathy the story of Mr. Gandhi's fight against the introduction of these reforms, the elections which preceded the birth of an Indian Parliament, and the difficulties in its path. The concluding chapters on the economic factors and the Indian problem as a world problem are very suggestive. On the whole few men can write of contemporary history with as great impartiality as Sir Valentine Chirol.

C. H. VAN TYNE.

#### BOOKS OF AMERICAN HISTORY

*New Viewpoints in American History.* By ARTHUR MEIER SCHLESINGER, Professor of History in the University of Iowa. (New York: Macmillan Company. 1922. Pp. xi, 299. \$2.40.)

PROFESSOR SCHLESINGER purposed in his heart "to bring together and summarize, in non-technical language, some of the results of the researches of the present era of historical study". He succeeded admirably, even to the "non-technical language". His story flows easily, smoothly, with here and there a refreshing eddy of humor, as, for example, his likening of the two great parties to "two armies that have been sitting opposite each other for so long a time that they have forgotten the original cause of their quarrel".

As the author suggests in his "Foreword", most of his chapters deal with viewpoints not new to historical scholars. On geographic factors he follows Semple, Brigham, and others; on the influence of the frontier, Turner and Paxson; on economic influences, Beard and his confederates. In the chapter on the American Revolution he has an easy mastery due to his own valuable contribution to the study of that period, and to the work of such scholars as Andrews, Osgood, and Beer. While these chapters deal with facts and viewpoints familiar to most historical scholars, the author's summaries and interpretations will be suggestive to his professional confrères, and of much enlightenment to the general reader.

Fresher to the hardened historian are the chapters on the Rôle of Women, the State Rights Fetish, the Foundations of the Modern Era, and the Riddle of the Parties.

The most resonant and recurring note in the volume is that of economic influences, whether in the Revolution, the making of the Constitution, the Jacksonian period, or the "Modern Era". He does